

## Proposal aims to make current priority point system more beneficial to commuter students

By CHRISTINE SAVOIA  
Circle Contributor

The priority points system motivates resident students to become more active in campus activities in an effort to get the best housing. Unfortunately, the system doesn't give commuter students any incentives to become involved in those same activities. Commuters, who live either in apartments five minutes off campus or drive over half an hour from nearby towns, don't gain any rewards by joining clubs and organizations.

Joel VanWagenen, a senior and president of the Commuter Student Council, has been trying to fix this problem. Since last semester, Joel has been putting together a proposal for a priority points system for commuter students.

Joel presented the proposal to the SGA Executive Board earlier this semester and to the Senate just a few weeks ago.

The proposal itself states, "It is a common problem on the Marist College Campus that the commuter student population is not involved in campus life to the degree that resident students are involved."

The overall idea behind the proposal is to get commuter students involved on campus by

altering the current priority points system in a way that gives them tangible rewards. As the proposal states, "It is desirable that commuter students receive a reward equivalent to that which residents receive, but has bearing on their campus life at Marist College."

While leaving the resident system in place, the proposed parallel system for commuters

**Primarily, the goal of the whole proposal is to get the commuters, which make up a large chunk of the student population, to feel more like a part of the Marist community by getting involved.**

substitutes the points for Room Damage and Room Condition for Parking Violations and Violation Frequency. These sections would work in the same way as room damage and condition for resident students; commuter students would lose points for parking violations (depending on the severity) and for the number of times they received violations. Security would be able to determine whether an infraction is major or minor and deduct the appropriate number of points.

There have been a number of proposed rewards for commuters with high priority points as well, including priority park-

ing in Beck, Sheahan, or the Fontaine Annex, discounts at the Cabaret, the matching or awarding of Thrifty Cash, and on-campus housing for those that may want it.

The future for this system is up in the air as of now. Apparently, one of the biggest concerns was whether this system is truly parallel and equal to the current system in place

for residents.

**"The current possible solution was presented by the Commuter Council President but found lacking by many Senators,"** said Christopher Waters, a junior and Senator. **"More research is needed and Admin approval is required before any progress can be made."**

**"However,"** Waters added, **"the Senate did agree that a change was needed and would look further into the matter."**

"The system pulls in Housing, Security, and College Admissions," VanWagenen said. "It's difficult to say whether it would work and

where it would go- it's really up to the Marist Community."

As far as commuter campus involvement, VanWagenen said, "It's not going to fix the problem completely, but at least the college will have made the attempt to give residents and commuters the same opportunities to get involved."

VanWagenen also stressed that the point of the proposal isn't to allow commuters the opportunity to live on campus, as may have been originally interpreted during the presentation. The option of housing as a reward is a long way down on the list of objectives this proposal is trying to accomplish. Primarily, the goal of the whole proposal is to get the commuters, which make up a large chunk of the student population, to feel more like a part of the Marist community by getting involved.

VanWagenen credits Omar Diaz, president of the SGA, as well as Senators Steven Townsend and Nicole Johnson, for helping him along with the proposal process. At the moment all there is left to do is wait, but VanWagenen hopes at some point in the near future either this system or one like it will give commuters better opportunities on campus.

## Marist faculty ranked 27th in the country

By AMANDA LAVERGNE  
Circle Contributor

For most students across the nation, the go-to website when looking for the latest scoop on a professor is

RateMyProfessor.com. Just recently, the Web site released the top 50 schools in the nation with the best faculty. Marist ranked in the list, coming in at number 27.

The rankings were compiled by using a weighted score; professors were ranked from high to low. Only professors with 30 ratings or more (in the years 2005-present) were included to provide accurate statistics. All professors were verified as actively teaching in the current semester by each school at the time the lists were compiled. Also the weighted score reflects a combined, long-term performance rating of just over a two-and-one-half years, with an emphasis on the most recent ratings.

"I feel that the rank Marist came in does reflect what the faculty here has to offer," said Paul Ciminello, an

Environmental Issues Professor. The list on the Web site was compiled of schools with the highest combined average ratings among their faculty.

Most students, unlike the professors here at Marist, highly regard the Web site and take what previous students have to say about their potential teacher into high consideration.

"I always make sure to go to the Web site before I decide what class I want to sign up for. If you don't have a good teacher, how are you going to do well in the class?" said freshman Michelle Francesconi.

Some students were even surprised to see that Marist ranked in such a low position.

"I was honestly a little bit shocked. I feel that with Marist being such a small school, it should have done a little better in the ranking since most students here are able to get a more personal relationship with their teachers," said freshman Lisa Odoardi.

RateMyProfessor.com is the highest trafficked US college professor rating site, listing almost 6,000 schools and 7,500,000 ratings and providing an automated system for quickly researching and rating over 1,000,000 professors from colleges and universities across the United States and international territories. The site reaches approximately 1.5 million college students each month and more than 150,000 log on daily.

## Campus Ministry's Giving Tree project helps out families around Dutchess County, providing them gifts for Christmas

By KRISTEN DOMONELL  
Staff Writer

Christmas trees with red, yellow and green paper ornaments are decorating campus buildings this season.

These trees are part of the Giving Tree project and each ornament displays a gift for a family living in Dutchess County for students and faculty to purchase.

Each year as one of its service projects, Campus Ministry runs the Giving Tree with the goal of giving poor families an enjoyable Christmas.

According to Campus Minister Jamie Williams, Campus Ministry helps Dutchess Outreach, Catherine Street Community Center, Family Services, Grace Smith House and ARCS (Aids Related Community Services) sponsor families. This year Marist accepted three more families, bringing the total to 25.

Afome Agawu-Kakraba, a sophomore and Campus Ministry board member, said he and fellow organizers began working on the project about a month ago, starting with the decorations committee.

"A bunch of people set up tables in the cafeteria one night

and volunteers from campus ministry would either make and write on the ornaments or make posters," Agawu-Kakraba said.

The Giving Tree is one of the largest projects of the year, Agawu-Kakraba said.

There are eight trees set up around campus, including trees in all four academic buildings, the cafeteria, Cabaret, Champagnat Breezeway, and the chapel.

Williams said the project requires a lot of help from the Marist community.

"I think it's an easy way for people to get involved in other people's lives in some way, to give back, and to celebrate as a community," Williams said. "Because campus ministry is so large, it's a great network to do that in."

Sophomore Christina Lopez participated in the project last year as treasurer for the Marian Hall Resident Student Council. According to Lopez, everyone in the dorm contributed a total of \$120 to purchase a warming blanket for an elderly couple.

"The warming blanket was something the couple needed and it made me feel good knowing I had helped," said Lopez. "I also felt very appreciative for the things I am fortunate enough to have."

Although no longer a Marian Hall resident, Lopez said she enjoyed the experience last year and will be participating in the project again by buying two shirts for a 12-year-old girl.

There is a five gift limit for each family, and gifts are limited to those for children and household items, Agawu-Kakraba said.

"iPods were the most popular request this year," Agawu-Kakraba said. "People were also asking for lots of things they needed for the house. One person asked for a vacuum, stuff like that."

Williams said Campus Ministry tries to make sure all gifts are purchased by the end of the event.

"Whatever's left, we try and account for. Be it using our funds and shopping for them, or using money that is donated to the Giving Tree, we try to satisfy all the ornaments," Williams said.

Once gifts are bought, they are wrapped and brought to the chapel to be blessed in a ceremony, then given to the organizations to be distributed, Agawu-Kakraba said.

This year, the Giving Tree ceremony will be held on Sunday, Dec. 16 at 7 p.m.



ANDREW OVERTON / THE CIRCLE

The ornaments on this Campus Ministry Giving Tree found in Dyson Hall offer gift suggestions for less fortunate families in Dutchess County.

### Student Government Bulletin

Not really into the party scene? Looking for events that don't concern alcohol? Interested in meeting students with your same interests? Check out <http://www.alteredu.net> and sign up for the Marist Super Group!

AlterEdu offers Marist students a chance to post their own profiles, get information on events both on and off campus, and become more actively involved on campus without having to drink.

Contact [katherine.procter1@marist.edu](mailto:katherine.procter1@marist.edu) for more information!

**Come to the General Members Meeting on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>!**

It will be at 9:30 in the SGA Office (across from College Activities) and let your voice be heard!

Last week, over 30 students came. Topics that were discussed were changing GPA requirements, issues in the cafeteria, and how to form new clubs and new Avenues for Publicity.

Come take half an hour to talk about what you want to change on YOUR campus. Contact [x2006](mailto:x2006) for more information!

**Come to the Jingle Ball on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> in the Cabaret!**

Everyone is invited. Contact [andrew.clinkman1@marist.edu](mailto:andrew.clinkman1@marist.edu) for questions and more details. Event starts at 8pm!



# Campus

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## Security Briefs

### Sheahan Hall: Too small to pick a fight, too dumb to live

By TYLER THURSON  
John Gildard in Training

#### 12/2 - Midrise

In a stunning case of big man (or woman, who am I to judge?) on campus syndrome, a student reportedly heaved a lengthy list of items out of a Midrise lounge window. The list included: 1 television, 1 microwave, 1 computer monitor, and 1 bag of garbage.

Wow. There are almost no words for this. Thankfully, security came up with a few. They would like anyone with information as to who took their rage a little too far to contact them immediately, using email, the phone, or in person, and can remain completely anonymous if they wish. The matter is now under investigation by perfect storm of "you're screwed": the housing staff, security, and the town police. And in an even sweeter case of justice, the Poughkeepsie police are taking this matter very seriously, even dusting for fingerprints. See, now look what you did. This is where all those crime shows like "CSI," and "Law & Order" come in handy, you can never be caught if you know what you're doing. Oh wait, if only you had a television. And once again, it all comes back around. Genius.

#### 12/2 - Benoit

Wow, the rage around campus just keeps spreading. Some residents of Benoit were also apparently sipping on the

Haterade and broke an entry window. Okay, so this might be not rage. Maybe someone just got locked out; I don't really know. One thing I do know, however, is acceptable situations to break a window. 1) You're being chased by the ghost face killer from the *Scream* movies. Then, you break like you've never broken before. Otherwise, you end up like Tatum, thinking the doggy door is the best avenue for escape. 2) You're saving a baby from a burning building. Because really, who doesn't love a good citizen with a heart of gold? Plus, who doesn't love cute babies? Well, besides me, but that's beside the point. So, to conclude, burning babies and real life horror movies = mess that window up. Forgetting your key = wait for a friend, then break it together. Can keys cut glass?

#### 12/2 - Lower West Cedar

Ah, the holidays. Chestnuts roasting on an open fire, bottles of wine chugged in the corner, and Jack Frost nipping at your nose. Families all around us are coming together, surrounding the oven and inhaling the smell of burning... plastic? Students in Lower West Cedar busted out the perennial holiday savior, the fire extinguisher, when they discovered the oven they had just turned on still held a plastic container inside it. Students are reminded to cook safely, checking your

oven regularly for any remnants of culinary attempts gone wrong or leftover Tupperware, and when all else fails, for the love of God, please call take out. That is, unless plastic casserole is your thing. Which for some people, it might be. This is a judgment free zone, I'm not gonna say anything. Whatever floats your boat, as long as you don't catch that on fire too.

#### 12/3 - Midrise

You know, I might transfer my underground crime lair to the laundry room, because apparently, that is where the good things are going down.

A student reported the loss of a jacket from the laundry room, having dried it only to return to a big dryer of nothing. The student then proceeded to promise that this misdemeanor would not go unpunished, and will proceed to beat down every gentleman on campus in a Northface until the culprit is apprehended. If the student starts their assault on campus today, by next winter, they should once again have a jacket.

#### 12/3 - Benoit

Taking the last Benoit breaking a step farther, a student removed the motion censor that controls access into Benoit. You know, I may not be the brightest kid. I may have failed math two semesters in a row in high school, only passing because my teacher threw out his grade book, and in

my logic, couldn't fail me if he didn't have my grades. I don't know what it is, but I can't wrap my head around this one. Does disabling the motion censor even make it easier to get in? Is it that hard to swipe your card, or did you just really want to use that broken window to its fullest advantage. Isn't that just making it harder for yourself? Here's a thought, if you're that keen on making things hard for yourself, why not just punch yourself in the face, lay on the ground, and wait for security to come find you. They can let you in just fine, no need to swipe.

#### 12/4 - Notes

So, this one isn't really a security brief. Yet, I feel it's important. It has recently been brought to my attention that some members of a certain freshman dorm have not found my attempts at satirizing campus the least bit funny. In fact, some have commented that I seem to pick on this particular dorm the most, to which I reply that it's not my fault you do the dumbest stuff. I can't make something out of nothing, you guys clearly aren't applying for Mensa membership. In fact, I'm almost positive many of you thought Mensa meant table in Spanish. Yet, through all this anger and hatred, if I had rightfully offended anyone, I'd just like to take this moment to apologize. This is all supposed to be in good fun, and hopefully when you're older you'll laugh

at it to. I mean, I'll probably still be laughing, but maybe you can finally join me. Honestly, freshman year is funny. You learn who your friends are, realize what you want to do with your life, and think getting kicked out of the Loft will qualify you for rebel of the year. So, seriously, laugh about it. But, if this didn't help at all, and you still really, really, really, don't like me, and everything I write just rubs you the wrong way, don't read it. Or hate me anyway, but trust me, you're going to need a spot in line. There should be an opening behind my best friend from 2nd grade, my manager from a retail store, and the girl in high school who asked me if she looked good tan, to which I replied that tanning wouldn't cover up her ugly personality. Seriously, take a number. I'll be with you when I can.

**[Ed. Note - Despite the fact that Security Briefs are indeed covered by the First Amendment, I still tend to get a lot of people complaining about how they come off in them. It's really quite simple - don't get in trouble. Wisen up and don't get caught. Point is that if you're dumb enough to get caught burning basic food or smuggling in alcohol after 3 p.m., you are up for mockery. It's nothing against you - we discriminate against everyone equally. Except for freshmen. And other communication majors. And Dave Matthews fans. Heaven forbid you're all of those. //mbl ]]**

*Disclaimer: The Security Briefs are intended as satire and fully protected as free speech under the First Amendment of the Constitution.*

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The Circle is the weekly student newspaper of Marist College. Letters to the editors, announcements, and story ideas are always welcome, but we cannot publish unsigned letters. Opinions expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the editorial board.

The Circle staff can be reached at (845) 575-3000 x2429 or letters to the editor can be sent to writethecircle@gmail.com. The Circle can also be viewed on its web site, www.maristcircle.com.

## Campus Classifieds

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, Dec. 8

Mall Trip

4 pm - 12 am

Tickets available at College Activities

Tuesday, Dec. 4 -  
Wednesday, Dec. 12

Hanukkah

Tuesday, Dec. 25  
Christmas

Contact SPC for information about other on-campus events!

Happy holidays!

One more edition of *The Circle* left for this semester!

### Mac Whiz Wanted

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# News

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## MCCTA performance has powerful meaning for students and audience

By AMY WHEELER  
Staff Writer

As the boy in the orange jumpsuit fell to his knees and the lights shining on him faded out, the audience members were silent, deep in their own thoughts.

The Marist College Council on Theater Arts (MCCTA) performance of *Bang, Bang You're Dead*, a play written by William Masterosimone, provoked many emotions and questions from the audience.

However, MCCTA was prepared to deal with this predicted onslaught of questions. It chose to conduct a question and answer session following the show in order to help the audience understand the events that the play depicted. Written after the Springfield school shooting in 1998, in which a boy murdered his parents, two classmates, and injured 25 others, *Bang, Bang You're Dead* approached the

issue of school shootings from the mind of the killer, Josh, who was played by junior Jeff Hogan.

Freshman cast member Chris Steber explained why this question and answer session was necessary.

"What's so important about *Bang, Bang You're Dead* is that the audience is caught in the middle of a shooting, and they're able to make a connection to the characters, and to the very horrors of a school shooting," he said. "The playwright, in short, wants the audience to be so moved that they're going to stand up and say, 'This must never happen again, and we must do all in our power to stop these kinds of tragedies from happening.'"

During the question and answer session on Friday night, one young boy bravely raised his hand and asked, "When you die, is it forever?" Joanna Stein, a senior cast member, called this the "most poignant question" the cast received, and Steber called

it the "most powerful."

"The fact that someone that young grasped the whole concept was amazing," Stein said. "He was figuring out the permanence of Josh's actions, he was dealing with the line between make-believe and real life. He was realizing the effect one person can have on so many. It was so simple, but exactly the message we wanted to convey."

Steber agreed, saying, "I think all of our hearts were broken. That boy hit the point of the play right on the head."

In his biography in the program, senior director Mark Heftler wrote that he "couldn't have chosen a more powerful piece to go out with." In his opinion, theater can have many forms, and can, in the case of *Bang, Bang You're Dead* be a vehicle for change and a form of education.

Steber said he felt as though this had been accomplished.

"It's incredibly rewarding to hear reactions from audience

members, people saying how intense the show was, how moving it was," he said. "We know we've done our job when they say that to us. I hope that they've learned a lesson or two in the process."

Heftler's biography in the program said that he "hopes, sincerely, that each and every audience member is able to take something strong and meaningful away from this piece."

The play took on a new meaning for this area last week. According to an article by Alice Hunt in the *Poughkeepsie Journal*, at Arlington High School, (13 miles from Marist College), a Columbine-like plot to attack the school on April 20, 2010 was uncovered. That date would have coincided with the students' senior year and the 11th anniversary of the Columbine shootings.

"That really hit way too close to home for my comfort, and I realized just how important it is that we put on this play," Steber

said.

The play did not only have an effect on the audience, but on the actors as well.

"*Bang, Bang* was definitely one of the most fulfilling plays I've performed in because it was one of the first plays I've ever done that has had such a bold and moving message," freshman cast member Stephanie McDonald explained.

Sophomore Mindy Reed agreed.

"This was very fulfilling and it was very emotional for me," she said. "I actually cried during the performances because it was so powerful to see the audience and how they are responding to what we are saying. Also, getting to change lines and saying, 'I'll never be married in a white dress, tell my parents I love them again,' meant a lot to me."

Steber said he felt that the playwright had many goals in writing this play.

"He wanted us to stop and think for a minute," he said.

"Think about what effect we may have on school violence. Think about how we may fuel it, even in the smallest way. Think about how children should be raised. He also wanted us to realize just how real these shootings are, and how they are so devastating. The students who die in the play say, 'The bullet that killed me pierced my parent's heart,' etc. These school shootings affect everyone in some way."

Reed added, "I think the playwright was just trying to personalize the school shooting scenario and was trying to show more than what the media portrays a school shooting to be."

The actors also had goals for what they wanted the audience to take away from the performance.

"I hope that the show accomplishes awareness, and not just on the part of kids who go to school, but on administrators and parents," Stein said. "Be aware, pay attention."

## Phony bomber takes hostages at Hillary Clinton's campaign office in New Hampshire

By JOSEPH GENTILE  
Staff Writer

There were road flares duct-taped to his chest, but Leland Eisenberg alleged he had a "bomb" and held five people hostage at Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton's campaign field office in Rochester, N.H. on Friday, Nov. 30. However, after several hours of negotiations with a state trooper, Eisenberg released each of his hostages before surrendering to police.

Eisenberg specifically requested a dialogue with Clinton, but Rochester Police Chief David Dubois denied the request.

"As a tactical standpoint, that wouldn't have been wise for us to do that," he said, because it reduces the negotiator's bargaining leverage.

"It appears that he is someone who was in need of help and sought attention in absolutely the wrong way," Clinton said.

She also told reporters that Eisenberg had no prior contact with the Clinton campaign before Friday's events.

"These incidents unfortunately occur from time to time," the senator said. "And you work with law enforcement, you trust the professionals to deal with whatever the threat might be. And I have full confidence in them. I don't think it's going to impact in any way on me."

Senator Clinton, although a

safe several hundred miles away in Washington D.C., flew into New Hampshire, afterwards to meet with the five released hostages and their families before traveling to Iowa. Originally, she had been rehearsing a speech for a Democratic National Committee event in suburban Virginia. Instead, Clinton found herself instructing

staffers to suspend all immediate campaign activities until the crisis was resolved. Former President Bill Clinton also cancelled his appearance at a fundraiser he planned to attend in New York City that night.

The incident, which happened in a small office on North Main Street, put the entire city on high-alert for more than six hours. Police evacuated all of the buildings along North Main Street, including the nearby campaign offices of Senator Barack Obama and John Edwards. Clinton's office in Rochester, a former mill city of 30,000 about 70 miles north of Boston, is just one of the several she has scattered throughout the state.

Eisenberg, a 46-year-old man from nearby Somersworth, complained to the arresting officers about his inability to get mental health treatment.

In September 2002, Eisenberg filed a lawsuit against the Boston Archdiocese, alleging that he had been raped by a parish

priest, and named then-Archbishop Cardinal Bernard Law as a defendant. Law had been forced to resign that year after internal documents indicated he transferred priests around parishes, without disclosing the sexual-abuse allegations against them.

His lawsuit states that, in his early 20s, Eisenberg had been homeless and living in an abandoned car of an Ayer, Mass. junkyard. During that time, he sought help from the Roman Catholic Parish of St. Alexandria in Westford, looking for housing and support. Instead, Eisenberg alleged that a priest exposed him to pornography, and then molested him after he had been hired by the parish as a painter. He had been offered lodging at the parish until he could fully support himself.

One night, according to his lawsuit, that priest appeared to bring an intoxicated Eisenberg home from a nightclub. He had initially passed out, but Eisenberg found himself being raped in the driveway of the parish once he awoke. The next week, he attempted suicide by jumping off a bridge in Ayer, and was transported to a psychiatric facility for observation and treatment.

Reporters at CNN acquired knowledge that Eisenberg also had been addicted to both drugs and alcohol at the time, according to a legal source involved

in the case.

Presently, he faces state charges of four counts of kidnapping, one count of criminal threatening and one count of false use of an explosive device, according to Rochester Police Captain Paul Callaghan. Government authorities also stated Eisenberg might face stiff federal charges.

"I haven't spoken to my family about it, but I can say that when I heard it, I was surprised," junior Nicki Boisvert, of Merrimack, N.H. — about an hour from the Rochester area, said "You don't usually think of New Hampshire doing things like that."

Despite being stereotyped as "a relatively small, unimportant state," according to Boisvert, New Hampshire recently reasserted its right to be the first state to hold a presidential primary in the first week of January last month.

Boisvert's family has traditionally participated in the New Hampshire primary, and she herself remembers going to see Bill Bradley eight years ago, and both John Edwards and Wesley Clark only four years ago.

"It's always exciting to go and interact with candidates like that," Boisvert said.

"I hope it doesn't inflict any fear in any of the candidates," Boisvert added. "My guess is it will have a minimal effect, but only time will tell for certain."

## Marist Band, Wind Symphony, Handbell Choir, and Singers ready for big winter concert

By JAMES MARCONI  
Managing Editor

The holiday season will kick off a little early this year, with the performance of a winter concert by the Marist Symphonic Band, Wind Symphony, Handbell Choir, and Singers.

Two concerts are taking place on Sunday, Dec. 9, in the Nelly Goletti Theatre. The first, at 2:00 p.m., will feature the Symphonic Band and Handbell Choir. The second at 8:00 p.m. features the Wind Symphony and Marist Singers.

"This is one of our biggest weekends in the fall semester," said Band President Matt DePace. "We've worked so hard, not only for football and

basketball, but for this concert as well."

DePace said that the quality of music has been kicked up a notch this year, with the introduction of 43 new freshman musicians to fill the spots left by only 17 graduating seniors. The band has also had the opportunity to be recognized on a national level, when they played for men's basketball the week before Thanksgiving at an invitational in Puerto Rico.

The upcoming concert, which is \$10 general admission, is the culmination of the Music Department's work this year.

"We want not only students, but faculty and the community to come and listen," said DePace.



From the Marist Band Web site

The Marist Symphonic Band, Wind Symphony, Handbell Choir, and Singers will perform on Sunday, Dec. 9 in the Nelly Goletti Theatre.

Write a letter to *The Circle*,  
get a free tee-shirt!\*

E-mail writethecircle@gmail.com with  
your letters to the editor.

\* No free tee-shirt actually available. Sorry.

Action in student press shouldn't be contingent on free stuff.

### Marist Defined:

An UrbanDictionary for the  
Poughkeepsie inclined.

**Capping (n.)**: A semester-long culmination of one's entire liberal arts education. Known to induce hallucinations, break up relationships and cause an increase in caffeine sales. See also: turkey clause, espresso shots, QuarkXpress, Hell on Earth.

**Harvard-on-the-Hudson (n.)**: Not Marist.

# Features

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## Students study abroad:

### Who needs the Ritz when you can stay in a room with fourteen strangers?

By **CLAIRE SEMDER**  
Circle Contributor

Traveling around Europe can quickly drain college students' bank accounts, but students learn how to pay less in order to experience more.

As studying abroad gains popularity across college campuses, students grapple with the issue of traveling to multiple countries during their few months away from home. For students living on tight budgets, the unavoidable problem is money. When they're abroad, these expenses quickly add up.

Meg Franklin, Interim Assistant Dean of International Programs at Marist College, encourages students to maximize their experience abroad by traveling to nearby countries. She knows from personal experience how important it is to save and keep track of one's money while traveling.

"As a student, I used a variety of hostels, low-budget hotels, and similar transport options," she said. "I traveled to dozens of countries this way — all very cheaply. I stayed in a convent once in Italy. I think I slept in a cable car once in Switzerland. When you're young, and you can tolerate less conveniences, like private bath [and] comfortable beds, this is a really ideal way to travel to a lot of places cheaply."

Another avenue that students use in an attempt to save money is the International Student Identification Card (ISIC), sold by the Student Travel Agency (STA) and available through the Marist Abroad office for outbound students. However, Franklin doubts if this card helps students to save money.

"Reception of the card, in my experience, is spotty depending on location, and students often find having a simple student ID will get them discounts at many transport offices [and] museums," she said.

However, Brandon Hallock, a travel agent at STA in Berkeley, Calif., said that the ISIC card, as well as the company, provides students with simple ways to save money while traveling abroad. According to the STA Web site, it is the world's largest student, youth and budget travel organization, with branches located around the globe.

"The card allows for student-reduced fares, which are made possible through contracts we

have with the airlines," he said. "We also offer reduced-priced, student-oriented tours of museums and attractions."

In addition to providing discounts, the ISIC card, usable for one year from the date of purchase, also

attractions in some instances, such as staying at a hotel directly on the Grand Canal in Venice.

"[It] mattered about how much you were willing to spend," he said. "I felt that it was important to find hostels near attractions. This might cost a little more, but it would save money in transportation costs."

However, Brever found international travel on a budget exhilarating and saved money at every chance he found.

"International traveling on a budget added to the excitement," he said. "It often meant that I could not settle for the easy path and had to seek adventures that cost a little less but often yielded memorable gain. One notable experience was sleeping in an airport to catch a

cheaper, earlier flight back to London. Had it not been for that, I never would have experienced the surprising party atmosphere that is Valladolid, Spain at four in the morning."

A simple way to save money and hassle according to students was to use experts like STA as a resource. Hallock explained how everyone working at STA, including himself, partakes in researching worldwide accommodations for students.

"All of our hostels and hotels are looked at by a team based in London," he said. "They go to these places and check them out. Additionally, we [the employees] have done a lot of traveling. I will use my own experiences with places and recommend them if they were good and won't if they were bad. We may not have all of the hostels [in an area] listed, but all of our properties have been checked out by STA employees."

Kari Maguda, a senior fashion merchandising major at Marist, booked trips both with STA and

by doing her own research on Web sites such as hihostels.com and lastminute.com while in London last spring. She said that researching accommodations first can really affect living arrangements abroad because of the "hit-or-miss recommendations that are online."

"My first hostel experience was in a cramped, eight-person room in Scotland with a space-heater, where I slept on top of my duvet cover, using my jacket as a blanket," she said. "However, for about three euros more, near the end of my travels, I found a low-budget hotel where I shared the room with one friend, and we had a personal bathroom with a bathtub with spa jets. It's a learning experience, but you really have to shop around."

Even Brever, a football player from Minnesota, found some of his hostel lodging less than accommodating, as some hostels place 14 or more travelers in a room.

"I found hostels to be generally similar: large community dorms with the odorous guy on the top bunk," he said. "The sheets were shady, and the floors were stained. Bathrooms looked even more suspect, and some required money to work. Mornings were generic cereal and half of a hard baguette with a bit of jam."

Although many students opt to stay in hostels in order to keep their wallets fed and not for the rooms and services, Franklin advises Marist students not to sacrifice safety for money.

"Safety should always be a priority," she said. "I don't encourage students to travel without planning in advance. Even low-budget and hostel environments have reputations. [Students] should always do their research in advance to make sure they aren't going to end up in a situation that would be dangerous. Petty crime and other issues are often more of an issue in low-budget establishments or hostels that have no checkpoints or low security. Students should keep in mind to travel light, always keep essential documents on their person, and be mindful of their belongings."

Even though money became an issue for many like Brever, as a history major he wanted to explore as much of the world outside of Minnesota as possible while living in London and did not let it spoil his experience.

"Traveling abroad is the adventure of a lifetime," he said. "It is not something to be hindered by lack of money. Green pieces of paper can always be replaced, but building perspectives and creating international adventures never can."



A hostel in Budapest.

gives students access to a 24-hour emergency help line service and basic sickness and accident travel insurance (for trips outside the U.S.).

Lauren Pavlick, a senior advertising major at Marist College, found that although she did not always need her ISIC card at tourist attractions, she made back the seven pounds (about \$14) she paid for it within one trip. She used her ISIC card at STA travel to plan most of her trips and found the travel agents very helpful. Many of the hostels and low-budget hotels she stayed at, however, were not centrally located.

"Most of the hostels, and budget hotels were not near the sights, so you had to use transportation to walk to get where you wanted to be," she said. "It sort of puts you at a disadvantage because you may have to pay more for transportation since you are far away."

Andrew Brever, a senior history major at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minn., decided that it was worth the extra money to be closer to

## IT Girl: tech & web culture from a net-savvy chick

### Amazon Kindle VS Sony Reader

By **LISA BRASS**  
Copy Editor

The sad fact is that by just reading the title of this article, you would have no idea what this article about.

Welcome to the problem that marketing departments faced when their respective companies came up with brilliant, yet virtually unheralded e-book readers. I will assume that you know what an e-book is. Professors are using them more and more instead of making photocopies of one page or another. Marist even has a whole library of e-books, which is called the Ebrary.

What you probably don't know is that companies are trying to tap into a somewhat nonexistent market of e-readers, devices capable of letting you read e-books on a small, handheld, and portable screen. The technology is getting better and better, but the problem is that the devices lack appeal to consumers. Most people are hesitant to read books on an e-reader because, well, that kind of breaks the whole tradition of books. A more scientific reason is that computer screens can bother a person's eyes after a while. Designers, however, have finally overcome these problems and deserve some attention for their effort.

At a cost of \$300, the Sony Reader is a beautiful, well-designed e-reader that has unlimited storage capacity thanks to plug-in cards. The way in which it turns pages and displays fonts is easy on the eyes and doesn't have the glare one would normally associate with a computer

screen. The best part, of course, is that you can take the Sony Reader with you anywhere—slip it in your purse or backpack and you're good to go. You can also electronically "bookmark" pages so you don't forget where you left off.

On a single charge, you can read 7,500 pages, which is probably more than some people read in a whole year.

Compare the product you've just witnessed (in print, anyway) to the new Amazon Kindle. It costs an extra hundred bucks at the price of \$400, but it might be worth it thanks to some great new features: wi-fi to connect to Amazon's store and a backlight. Cool. If you buy an e-book at Amazon (\$9.99 for new releases, according to their site), it will be wirelessly delivered in less than a minute. The Kindle holds over 200 titles, which is more than the Sony Reader's built-in storage capacity. The wireless ability is utilized to sync online newspapers and blogs so that you'll never run out of reading material. Still cool.

And now, for the not-cool. The Kindle's design is ugly. There, I said it. But you can have a look for yourself—it's a big, bulky, blocky device that compares to Sony's slim e-reader like a mallard duck compares to a swan. Another not-cool aspect is the cost of the books. Come on, \$9.99 for new releases? In electronic format, books are just another word document. There's no cost of printing or shipping. I think that in order for the Kindle or the Reader to catch on, e-books are going to have to get a lot cheaper. That's the only way anyone will be interested in buying an e-reader in order to buy and read their

e-novels comfortably.

A last disappointing point that I found is the Kindle's battery life, which Amazon describes as "long." I don't consider a device to have long battery life if I'm recommended to charge it every other day like Amazon suggests. I know the wireless card uses up a lot of power, but Amazon should really have worked to improve the battery life to be competitive with the Sony Reader's if it wanted to sell this device at all.

That said, I'm sure the company will sell plenty of these to people who think it's a great Christmas gift for the book lovers on their list. Those people are mistaken. As a book enthusiast and a geek who ordinarily loves the latest technology, I'll pass on both the Kindle and the Reader, thanks. Until e-books get cheaper, the battery life of e-readers gets better and the device becomes more amazing in general... hell, I still won't buy this. Why would I buy an e-reader for \$400 when I could get an iPhone and have phone capabilities, emailing, messaging, texting, etc. and still read word documents? That's the entire basis of e-readers: reading word documents.

The future of reading may be in e-books, but I'm pretty damn sure it's not in e-readers. Save your money for the ultimate device, the one that make phone calls, surfs the net, allows you to read and write emails, has games, displays pictures, plays videos, and lets you read novels comfortably. Apple probably has the closest device to this ideal so far... but I'm still waiting, and so should you.

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## Lack of course selection makes add/drop difficult

By MELISSA GRECO  
 Staff Writer

With the conclusion of Add/Drop, not many people are completely satisfied with their schedule for second semester. After further investigation, the general consensus is that there are not enough popular class sections, and the registration process is simply unfair.

Of course, there are a variety of College Writing II and Intro to Philosophy sections to choose from, but what about classes that are not core?

The biggest complaints I have heard are regarding the business department.

Sophomore business major Jeff Seymour said he only got into one class after the pre-registration period, and it didn't even count for his major.

"I didn't get into any of my business classes," said Seymour. "There are a lot of night classes," said business major Danielle Sicard. "It's unreasonable."

The admissions office has been trying to increase the number of commuters in response to housing conflicts. However, if the admissions office was on the same page with registrar, the office would know that it's difficult for commuters to attend night classes—or even get into a class, for that matter—if sections are limited.

Meanwhile, have you ever received that little slip of paper in your mailbox, and on it appeared the words "Falls below

**The general consensus is that there are not enough popular class sections, and the registration process is simply unfair. Of course, there are a variety of College Writing II and Intro to Philosophy sections to choose from, but what about classes that are not core?**

priority line"? Have you ever wondered, "How?" or "Why?" I have.

When registering for semester two classes, I was frustrated. The course catalogue only offered one section of several classes I had to take for my major

The only section of Journalism II is offered on Tuesdays and Fridays at 12:30 p.m. Yuck!

With freshman classes extending to over 1,000 students in the past two years, Marist should try to keep a proportionate balance between students and sections offered.

Claire Benoit, a business major, was admitted into three classes.

"I Add/Dropped into classes I didn't really want to take," she said. "I had to choose something, though."

While many students complain about this system, it could be worse. In Middletown, CT, Wesleyan University students register for their classes much differently.

They pre-register by entering the codes for their desired classes into a computer system that sorts through the data, compiles schedules, and sends the results to that student. If an individual is not satisfied with the outcome, one must wait until the Add/Drop period. Here's the twist.

SEE ADD/DROP, PAGE 7

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to an article that was supposed to spotlight Theta Delta Chi (TDX), a new Marist fraternity. SGA Senator Chris Waters' single-minded comments about Greek Life were very disheartening. It is unfortunate that Mr. Waters has such strong feelings about such a prominent community, especially since his position as senator is to "represent the Student Body." How are the Greeks supposed to be represented by a person who is a self-proclaimed "adamant opponent to Greek life in general"?

My organization, Kappa Kappa Gamma, has created a campus-wide school supply drive, fundraised for Miles for Medals, supported the Galleria's Night of Giving, Take Back the Night and the giving tree. Other organizations deserve recognition as well, such as Alpha Sigma Tau who was one of the top fundraisers at Miles for Medals. Kappa Lambda Psi hosts the annual Blood Drive and held a Beach Party Dance which benefited the Epilepsy Foundation. Sigma Sigma Sigma cleans up route 9 in front of Marist as per the Adopt-a-Highway program and is the reason that Relay for Life is such a huge campus event. Alpha Phi Delta participates in One to One day here on campus and the men have been prominent supporters of Relay for Life and St. Jude's letter writing campaign. Phi Kappa Sigma has donated their time at the Poughkeepsie Salvation Army, worked at the Dutchess Outreach Family Service Center and has supported the Relay for Life as well. In fact, Greek organizations have made such monumental donations to the Relay for Life that all of the chapters are helping to plan the event for next spring- even TDX. We have welcomed TDX into our community by inviting them to hold a committee on the Relay for Life planning board. As a community we hold philanthropies together and recruit new members together.

I hope-no, I know- that SGA does not feel the same way as Mr. Waters. Why else would I receive an email from the Class of 2010 President Jeremie Hittenmark asking for a Greek presence at the Breast Cancer Karaoke Fundraiser this past week?

This letter may make a difference to others on campus that hold similar misconceptions of Greek life, or it may not. It's a shame you're so single-minded Mr. Waters because I have a few choice letters for you...Greek, of course.

Sincerely,  
 Christine Rochelle '08  
 President, Kappa Kappa Gamma

## Small Jewish population at Marist makes Hanukkah celebrations difficult

By JOSEPH GENTILE  
 Staff Writer

Shalom, or rather "Sup" to my goy (non-Jewish) readership. This should apply to about 99 percent of the Marist population. Still, it is that slim one percent of our visible Jewish population which exceeds the number of unicorn here, barely.

However, representation aside, this fact has not discouraged us as a people from celebrating our "festival of lights" called Hanukkah, Chanukah or Hanukah. It figures that after 40 years of wandering in the desert, my people had nothing better to

do than to debate the spelling of a holiday.

Anyways, before I get verklempt, I feel it is necessary to address a proxy war that tends to fly under the radar this time of year as Santa's sled soars overhead. Yes, my friends, I'm talking about the War on Hanukkah. You should try having your faith be a fire hazard.

But, before anybody kvetches about a "hazard," it does bare repeating that Hanukkah cannot happen without the menorah. The menorah, for those of you unfamiliar with Jewish culture, is a special candelabrum or oil lamp that holds eight candles, including a ninth candle elevated above the others called the shamash, Hebrew for "guard" or

"servant."

Historically, according to the Talmud (a record of Jewish laws and customs), after King Antiochus of Syria inherited the throne in 175 BCE, he ordained the systematic slaughtering of Jews and banned their religion altogether. Eight years later, King Antiochus ordered that an altar to Zeus be erected inside the holy Temple of the Jewish people. However, a man named Matthias, a sage in the Jewish community, and his five sons Jochanan, Simeon, Eleazar, Jonathan and Judah spearheaded a military campaign against him. Judah Maccabee, referred to as "Judah the Hammer," emerged as the army's leader and they soundly defeated King Antiochus' forces in 165 BCE.

Immediately afterwards, the Jews reclaimed their holy Temple and cleansed it free of the King's influence. Yet, as legend has it, the Jews needed olive oil for the temple's menorah, as it needed to be kept lit throughout the night, every night. Unfortunately, they only had a single jar of olive oil; enough to last them for one day. Miraculously, the oil burned for eight days, giving them enough time to prepare another jar. Subsequently, religious leaders called for an eight-day long festival to commemorate the miracle. That's what I call thrifty!

Now, it might just be me, but I don't remember the Nativity including the inflatable Santa currently anchoring your front yard. I'm not trying to bash Christmas, I loved Zoey Deschanel in "Elf," but to equate your inflatable Santa with my menorah under the subheading of "fire hazards" appears rather incongruous.

Yet, it might appear that someone on campus is standing up

for Jews wishing to celebrate "the miracle" at the end of each year. On the Web site for the college, underneath the subheading of Campus Life, beneath a hyperlink on the Campus Ministry page labeled "Activities," there exists a "Jewish Student Group." Its byline states that "Jewish students gather at the beginning of each school year to plan activities."

But, after I consulted with two Marist alumni, both of them told

**Any attempts to mobilize a self-sustaining Jewish student group under the auspices of Campus Ministry, have been repeatedly rebuffed... there seems to be no other outlet specifically for Jewish students to interact with one another.**

me that a regular, student-led group has ceased to exist for several years. One said her best friend attended up until her sophomore year, about roughly two years ago, before she said it fell apart. Similarly, my other source had sought to begin a chapter of Hillel (a Jewish student group) during the four years she attended, but not could find enough support. She graduated more than three years ago.

During Freshmen Orientation, Campus Ministry distributes a flier asking incoming freshmen to indicate their religious affiliation. In this way, they are able to tailor their programs to meet the needs of specific denominations. By doing so, Campus Ministry actively "recruits" Jews by adding them to an e-mail thread inviting them to attend a meeting of the "Jewish Student Group" at the beginning of the academic year. While this may be positive, any attempts to mobilize a self-sustaining Jewish student group

under the auspices of Campus Ministry, have been repeatedly rebuffed. Other than this solitary meeting, there seems to be no other outlet specifically for Jewish students to interact with one another.

Now, I am not going to accuse Campus Ministry of spreading misinformation, because this isolated group may, in fact, exist. But, with no direct contact information to the student leadership on Campus Ministry's Web page, nor its appearance on

any popular social networking Web sites, I'm beginning to speculate if there's a bit of a public relations problem going on here. Maybe they could recruit Jeremy Piven to champion their agenda, and they could all hug it out?

I realize that Campus Ministry typically orchestrates a Passover Seder for the spring semester each year, and pays homage to the "High Holy Days" of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, and on Tuesday, Dec. 4, at exactly 8:20 a.m., I discovered something else. Courtesy of Deborah DiCaprio, Dean of Student Affairs, I found an invitation in my foxmail account to attend a ceremony to celebrate lighting the first candle of Hanukkah in the PAR. I didn't anticipate a big turnout, but found myself impressed by the number of faculty and staff members that made a point of attending. Robin Torres, Director of the Office of First Year Programs and Leadership Development, melodiously led the entire group in reciting the Hanukkah blessings, and lit the first candle of our

eight-day celebration.

Perhaps the shy Jewish Student Group found the chutzpah to bring attention to Hanukkah through Campus Ministry, and actually orchestrated the event?

However, after consulting with two Marist students that assisted in the ceremony about the Jewish Student Group, I was met with quizzical stares. To their knowledge, no such group existed, and they had actually been assigned by a Campus Ministry staff member to officiate at the event.

If this group exists only in theory, I recommend that the proper updates should be made to the Campus Ministry page, and that disappointed Jews can enlist in my facebook group, "I'm a Jew at Marist College." You do not necessarily need to be practicing Judaism to join. If you are of Jewish heritage, or just simply appreciate Jewish people, you are more than welcome in my mishpocha - Yiddish for "family."

Not only do I intend to be a rebel these next eight days by lighting my menorah, but I invite you to hang out with me on Friday once I can appropriately celebrate my way. I can promise the musical stylings of Mr. Adam Sandler, KEDEM Grape Juice by the gallon, and a copy of "The Hebrew Hammer" on the TV. Happy holidays, everybody!

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY:

The Circle welcomes letters from Marist students, faculty and staff as well as the public. Letters may be edited for length and style. Submissions must include the person's full name, status (student, faculty, etc.) and a telephone number or campus extension for verification purposes.

Letters without these requirements will not be published. Letters can be dropped off at The Circle office or submitted through the 'Letter Submission' link on MaristCircle.com

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Opinions expressed in articles do not necessarily represent those of the editorial board.



## Alternative soapbox should discuss political issues

By MIKE NAPOLITANO  
Staff Writer

For the past few weeks during activity hour, the front of the library has served as an amphitheater for students to vocalize their opinions about Marist—the things they love, the things they hate, and the things that they think are just plain weird.

This forum has opened several discussions about campus life here at Marist. For example, during the last session before break, a discussion was opened up about priority points.

All this is great, but what I'm curious about is where the soapbox designated for politics is located. It seems to me that this kind of thing is inauspiciously missing from campus. A platform is needed for the members of the Marist community to vocalize their opinion on local, national, and international politics.

It doesn't matter if you're apathetic towards the realm of politics or overly zealous for your ideology. Everyone has to have some type of opinion brewing in the depths of their mind. It could be that one thing that always irks you or that one thing that you are simply fixated upon. In any case, the format of the open forum would allow the people to choose what the discussion is about and where the discussion leads.

Perhaps the Marist soapbox activity could take the road of the original soapbox model. The practice originated in 1872 in Hyde Park, London. The first sessions involved a soapbox placed neatly upon the ground at a location now aptly named the Speaker's Corner, and then anyone who had any opinion political or otherwise could express it on top of the mini stage.

Why can't this happen at Marist? Why is there no public forum for discussion? Topics can be as broad as existentialism to as narrow as the differences in shoe sizes. I know there are enough people on this campus who'd like to express their opinion. And although it's not happening now, there is always an avenue for change, especially if there is a will.

If this idea seems like something that you'd be into, I'd like to hear from you about it. All you need to do is take a couple of minutes out of your day and send me an e-mail at marist-soapbox@gmail.com. You check your e-mail everyday anyway, so why not take an additional minute to tell me what you think of this idea. Positive and negative feedback would be appreciated.

With enough people willing to participate in this, we can create a club on campus that fosters intellectual discussion held back by nothing more than a whim.

From Page 6

## Critiquing course selection

Add/Drop is the first two weeks of classes. Students attend any classes that they're interested in, and then they can put in a request to Add/Drop. Often times, after a student has attended two weeks of classes, the professor might reject a request.

"It's annoying and everyone hates it, but there seems to be no other way to do it," said Christian Skorik, a junior at Wesleyan.

Marist isn't so bad. However, the system that is currently used to register for classes needs to be reorganized.

"They need to increase the number of sections, or at least increase the number of students in a class," said Benoit. "Maybe they can move some of the night classes to times slots during the day. I would totally go to a three hour class during the day instead of at night."

# ANDERSON ONE-ACT PLAY

## CONTEST DEADLINE

First, send your email address to Prof. Cox ASAP if you have not told him you intend to submit a script.

You will then get by email additional information about things to check before submitting a play to the Anderson Playwriting Competition.

Second, plays may be submitted by email or by campus mail. Email send to:  
gerard.cox@marist.edu Campus mail: Prof. Gerard Cox, Campus Box MSC 14188.

Plays should be submitted on or before December 20.

Good luck.

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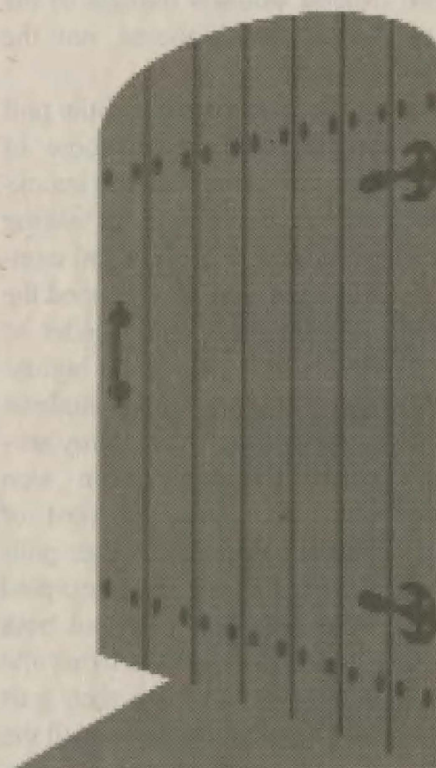
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# Health & Beauty

## Going green has never looked so good

By CLARE LANGAN  
Staff Writer

All-natural, organic food has become a normal part of our society, and many people can agree that living a "green" lifestyle is good for you and the environment. We order our fair trade coffee with soy milk and have grown accustomed to whole grain bread and locally grown produce. As the old adage says "you are what you eat", but isn't what we put in our bodies as important as what we put on them? After all, skin is extremely absorbent (how do you think those nicotine patches work, anyway?) Go into the health and beauty aisle of any drugstore and you will be bombarded with promises of "all natural" this and "vitamin infused" that. It can get very confusing for anyone just looking to buy a simple bar of soap! I've tested many of these products, as well as some old standbys for comparisons, wondering - is it worth it to go organic or should you just leave it up to nature?

You've probably heard that the average woman ingests a few pounds of lipstick and lip gloss per year. As the cold weather makes lip balm a must, it's hard to go a day (or an hour) without putting on the sticky stuff. You

may be tempted to buy whatever's on sale at the checkout counter (this stuff is there for a reason - for all you impulse buyers). Chapstick comes to mind as one of the most popular lip products. Sure, it's cheap, works decently and even has SPF 4 (wow!) But have you ever noticed how it makes your lips feel, kind of like you just put candle wax on them? Yeah, not such a great feeling. And take a look at the ingredients list.

Arachadyl Propionate is derived from coal- not something you want on your pucker or in your stocking. So do those luscious lips a favor and try Burt's Bees lip balm (\$3, drugstores). It's packed with all natural ingredients and does double duty to keep your breath fresh thanks to soothing peppermint oil. The best-selling balm is 95% natural and comes in a distinctive yellow tube (made of 50% recycled plastic) or tin. It is also available in Honey and this spring in

Coconut (it's yummy, I got a sneak peak.) Your lips (and the environment) will thank you.

This next product is something that both guys and girls can appreciate. Regular shaving creams can leave skin prone to irritation, redness and dryness. Brands like Barbasol and Skintimate are usually sold on

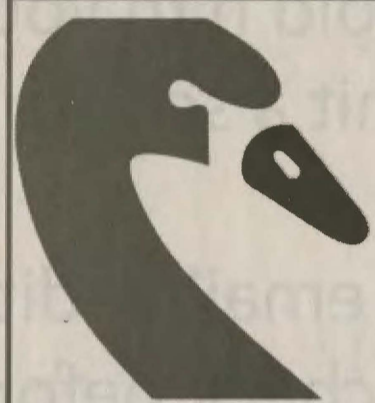
ably. Their Natural Conditioning Shave Cream (\$3.99, drugstores) is made without aerosols, petroleum, alcohol or artificial dyes. They don't test on animals and all of their products are vegan! As if that wasn't enough, 10% of their profits are donated to charity. The shave cream comes in Calendula and

potions are better for your skin, many of them tout moisturizing properties that aren't found in traditional, chemically-based products. If you like Bath and Body Works body lotion in Creamy Coconut, you will flip for Desert Essence Organics Coconut Hand and Body Lotion (\$6.29, drugstores). This cruel-

shampoos (sodium laureth sulfate) is also found in household products like dish soap? Great for stuck on casserole dishes, not so much for your mane. Popular brands like Herbal Essences and Garnier Fructis sound natural, but they are full of drying chemicals that can wreck havoc on your tresses, especially in the wintertime. One brand that has become the leader in plant-based hair care is Beauty Without Cruelty. Their citrus-scented Daily Benefits Shampoo (\$7.95, Mother Earth's Storehouse and drugstore.com) is 100% vegetarian, not tested on animals and made with "organic aroma-therapeutic" essential oils.

If you want to adopt the green lifestyle, why not start with some of these products? Who knows, maybe a little organic shampoo is all you need to inspire other aspects of your life to become more environmentally-conscious.

Also check out Aubrey Organics, Jason, Kiss My Face, Avalon, Nature's Gate, Alba and EO for more natural and organic products to make yourself "green" both inside and out. As legendary environmentalist Rachel Carson once said "Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts."



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**"Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts."**

-Rachel Carson

aerosol cans with ingredients that have been proven to deplete the ozone layer. You get a crappy shave and you just promoted global warming - sooo not green of you. A brand I really like is Tom's of Maine. You can find it right in your regular drugstore and everything is priced reason-

Refreshing Mint.

Natural body lotions have become increasingly popular, thanks in part to controversy surrounding potentially dangerous ingredients like petroleum, paraben and sulfates. Although it's tough to find evidence that these all-natural lotions and

ty-free, biodegradable dream cream is ideal for anyone who has skin sensitive to heavy fragrances or is allergic to artificial colors. It leaves a light tropical fragrance that won't leave you smelling like a pina colada (unless you are into that kind of thing).

If you're like me, you are in search of two things - the right guy and the right shampoo. Well, I can help you with one of those. Did you know that one of the first ingredients in many

## Marist students give poll for health care

By MICHAEL MAGLIONE  
Circle Contributor

November 4th, 2008, an important day - Election Day. Since President Bush was reelected people have been talking about who will replace him for the next term. As Election Day grows ever closer, major candidates from both parties are making a point to get their views heard. It seems that one of the hot button issues this election is going to be the health care system. Many people have expressed their disdain for the current health care system, but many do not know how each candidate is proposing to reform the system.

In my Religion and Politics class, we are required to do a citizenship project during the semester, with the objective being to help the general public in some way. Knowing that the health care system is a very mixed issue, my group and I decided to find out what the population at Marist believes about the system. We split into separate groups to dig up all we could find on our health care system, what the candidates believe and what the students believe.

To do so, our group created a poll consisting of (at the time) the top three candidates from both the Republican and Democratic Parties.

Representing the Republicans, we had former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Mitt Romney, and John McCain. The Democrats represented were Hillary Clinton, John Edwards, Barack Obama. As a group we researched each candidate's views on health care and tried to condense their thoughts into a simplistic version. We then made the poll but just put down the candidate views, not their names or party. We wanted to see what Marist students thought of the health care policies, not the candidates.

We then distributed the poll around campus, as some of you may remember me knocking on your door, or asking you to do it in class and compiled the data. We grouped the data into year and gender to find which policy the highest percentage of Marist students agreed with. Much to my surprise, Hillary Clinton won over the minds of most of Marist's population. Her policy was the one most accepted by every class year and both genders. We decided that the winner would have their part of the poll published for all the Circle readers to see, so without further ado here is Senator Clinton's condensed health care policy:

- Provide tax cuts for working families and for small businesses that provide health care to their employees.

- No discrimination - Insurance companies can't deny coverage to anyone with pre existing conditions and will have to give and renew coverage to anyone who applies and pays a premium. Also anyone who changes or loses their job will not lose their health care.

- Implement policies that will make insurance companies have to compete for your business.

Hillary Clinton's policy was the most socialized policy out of the six candidates that we researched. I felt that it was her no discrimination policy that really grabbed the attention of most students. Hillary's plan is very optimistic, but there are some things she does not address in the issues. She does not address the issue of if illegal immigrants will be covered or not.

One issue that is not addressed is foreign policies. Many European countries have socialized medicine, or a system that is very close to it. On the front, this sounds like a great idea -- everyone gets medical attention, everyone gets treatment. It sounds wonderful. But once you begin to look deeper into socialized medicine, the perfect system does seem to have some flaws. One thing people fail to recognize is that taxes in Europe are much higher than they are in America. Socialized health

care isn't free; it is just that the cost is distributed over a larger population. More of a family's income will be taken away to help pay for other family's health care. To some people money really is not a big deal so this is not such an important factor.

What I think is one of the most important issues concerning socialized health care is quality. Since you are increasing the quantity of people getting treated, you need to make sure you are not decreasing the quality. Canada for example, the government decides how many operations can be done. Doctors get government re-imbursement for seeing a certain number of patients so they're more likely to spend less time with a patient and just tell them what's wrong with them. Being rushed to see more patients can give rise to many misdiagnoses. Doctor patient interaction is limited already; do we really want a system that is going to decrease that? Another flaw with universal health is the fact that so many people can be treated so lines are usually very long. It is not uncommon to wait weeks or even months for extensive surgeries, such as heart or brain surgery.

So are the flaws really worth the change to universal health care, or is our current system good enough? That is for you to decide.

[ Ed Note: For further information concerning this topic, here are the results of the poll conducted on Marist College students. Also included are some websites which outline certain candidates health care policies and the current policies upheld.]

### The Results of the Poll

	Candida					
	Edward	Romney	Hill	Rudy	McCain	Obama
Year	A	B	C	D	E	F
Freshman	20	14	30	4	6	7
Sophomore	18	10	27	4	7	4
Junior	6	4	7	2	5	9
Senior	1	3	9	3	4	5
% Freshma	24.6913	17.2839	37.0370	4.93827	7.40740	8.64197
% Soph	25.7142	14.2857	38.5714	5.71428	10	5.71428
% Junior	18.1818	12.1212	21.2121	6.06060	15.1515	27.2727
% Senior	4	12	36	12	16	20

	Candida					
	A	B	C	D	E	F
Gender						
Female	27	16	45	7	13	15
Male	18	15	28	6	9	10
% Female	21.9512	13.0081	36.5853	5.69105	10.5691	12.1951
% Male	20.9302	17.4418	32.5581	6.97674	10.4651	11.6279

### Internet Resources

<http://www.hillaryclinton.com>  
<http://www.joinrudy2008.com>  
<http://americanhealthcarereform.org>



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- Honey Mustard
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## Take a study break to celebrate Hanukkah

By **KAITLYN ZAFONTE**  
Staff Writer

"Put on your yarmulke, here comes Hanukkah!" Yesterday night at sundown marked the start of Hanukkah. Whether you are only familiar with Adam Sandler's catchy lyrics or you truly cherish these eight special nights, Hanukkah offers many entertaining and delicious options.

Since we will still be on campus during the Festival of Lights,

here are some fun and festive ways to incorporate the holiday into your stressful study time. Gather up your friends and you'll see why "it's so fun-akkah to celebrate Hanukkah!"

First off, prepare the meal. Latkes (Yiddish for potato pancakes) are the most popular of the Hanukkah foods. They are eaten to celebrate and remember the oil that miraculously burned for eight days straight, thus allowing the Maccabees to worship freely.

This is also why the menorah holds eight candles (not includ-

ing the shamas candle that is used to light the rest). Rugelach and challah bread are also special Hanukkah treats. If you are looking for something simpler, however, try traditional Hanukkah sugar cookies.

A quick game of dreidel can break up studying time, as well as bring back memories of your youth. You can use any small objects like pennies or peanuts, or traditionally, Hanukkah gelt to play. The gelt is distributed equally among players and then each person adds one to the center collection.

Take turns spinning the dreidel. On each side of the dreidel is a different Hebrew letter: Nun (נ), Gimel (ג), Hei (ה), and Shin (ש). Respectively these translate to winning nothing, winning the entire center collection, winning half the center collection, or giving up half one's personal collection.

Whoever wins everything from the center pile wins the game.

Light the menorah, spin the dreidel, and enjoy these delicious Hanukkah treats!

## What to wear for the holidays (and still have money left over for gifts)

By **KATE GOODIN**  
Staff Writer

The holidays herald more than presents and tidings of comfort and joy; they're basically one big excuse to have endless festivities, gatherings and parties. And there's no argument here, because where there are parties, there are wardrobe decisions to be made!

The problem with dressing for the holidays isn't so much about what you wear as how and when to wear it. Sure, you could go out and blow your Christmas bonus on an ensemble for the fancy holiday bash, but what will you wear to your family gathering or the office party? To solve your sartorial conundrums, here's a list of trends and suggestions of what to wear for any occasion this holiday season.

**For your family gathering:** This largely depends on how formal the gathering usually is, but a family get-together is never an excuse to schlep downstairs for dinner in a Marist hoodie and sweats! Whatever you celebrate, the holidays come only once a year and as we spend less time with our families, it's important to regard this time as special; dress to honor that. You don't have to show up in your finest formal wear, but perhaps a pair of black trousers and a jewel-colored cashmere sweater would be nice. A cozy sweater dress with opaque stockings is a little dressier, but will keep you up on the trends (and nice and warm!). Jewelry can be kept minimal, unless accessories are your thing. Guys, a simple pair of khakis and a button-down shirt or sweater is easy and appropriate. You can find any of these basics at pretty much every major department store or boutique, and they're affordable. For the holidays, when it comes to family, keep it simple and polished.

**For the office party:** Ah, the office party. This is probably the most difficult occasion to dress for, but you have plenty of options. First, determine your company's dress code; is it usually a formal sit-down dinner or a laid-back gathering? For something formal, a sweater dress (potential repeat from the family dinner) with classy accessories, dark hose and heels can be appropriate. A nice satin top in a bright color with a dark wool pencil skirt or trousers would be very elegant. But of course, never forget the old standby: the stretchy, forgiving,

wear-with-any-accessory black wrap dress. Whatever you wear for a formal dinner, make sure it's with heels—and throw on a colorful wrap or a jacket, because the restaurant will probably be cold.

If it's a more relaxed celebration, anything goes, right? Well, not quite. This is still an office function and my advice would be to not wear anything you wouldn't want your boss to see you in. So swap your v-necks for crewnecks and stash the miniskirts—nothing should be in danger of falling out, even after too much eggnog.

What you wear also depends on how much time you have between work and the party. If you need to transition from work to party very quickly, wear basic black trousers to work (the same ones you wore to the family dinner!) and bring an extra top and shoes—five minutes in the ladies' room and voila! Instant wardrobe change. Touch up your eye makeup, apply some lipstick, knot your hair in a bun, switch from your everyday handbag to a chic clutch and you're practically a new woman.

**For the swanky soiree:** Now this is where you can have fun, because you don't have to dress to impress your family or stay conservative for your boss. Pick the wildest dress you can find and run with it! Banana Republic has a lot of great sequined and silky styles, either to buy or to use as inspiration. Shine and shimmer are trends for the holiday, but don't buy anything that will cause others to confuse you with the tinsel. A shimmery top, sparkly earrings or a bejeweled clutch or heels will really pop if worn with dark colors. This is also a great time to bust out your enormous cocktail ring or feathered hairpiece—anything that will give you a unique edge. Do remember that it is winter, and no matter how warm and fuzzy those hot toddies make you feel, it's COLD outside! Layer with some tights, sneak a camisole underneath your dress or envelope your freezing fingers in some warm, chic leather gloves.

Men, you also can have fun with holiday party dressing. I would still recommend a suit, but go crazy with the ties, pocket squares or cuff links. I'm not suggesting a light-up tie, but rich reds, emerald greens and royal aubergine are great colors for men.

Enjoy your holiday parties, dinners and gatherings in style with these simple wardrobe tips!

### LATKES RECIPE

**Ingredients:**  
4 potatoes  
1 medium onion  
1 egg (or any type of egg substitute)  
1 tsp salt  
½ tsp pepper  
1 tbsp flour  
½ tsp baking powder  
oil

#### Preparation:

1. Grate potatoes and onions. Drain out as much liquid as possible.
2. In a large bowl, mix egg, salt, pepper, flour, and baking powder. Add potato and onions, mix well.
3. Heat oil in a skillet and drop about 2 tablespoons of the potato mixture into the pan. Flatten with the back of a spoon.
4. Fry over medium heat for about 4 or 5 minutes on each side, or until golden brown and crisp.
5. Blot excess oil with paper towels.
6. Before frying a new batch, stir potato mixture.
7. Serve hot with applesauce or sour cream.

### SUGAR COOKIE RECIPE

**Ingredients:**  
2 cups flour  
1 ½ tsp baking powder  
¼ tsp salt  
2/3 cup shortening  
¾ cup sugar  
1 egg (or egg substitute)  
1 tbsp milk (or any non-dairy substitute)  
½ tsp vanilla

#### Preparation:

1. Stir together flour, baking powder, and salt.
2. In a separate bowl, beat shortening, and then add sugar. Beat until fluffy. Add egg, milk, and vanilla and mix well.
3. Slowly add the flour mixture, beating well.
4. Cover dough and chill for an hour.
5. Roll out dough ¼ inch thick. Cut with cookie cutters and place about one inch apart on an ungreased cookie sheet.
6. Bake at 350 degrees for 8-10 minutes or until edges are lightly browned. Remove from cookie sheet and cool on wire racks.

## Top 20 Christmas Songs

By **CHELSEA MURRAY**  
Staff Writer

20. Oh Holy Night—Celine Dion—Dion's version of this Christmas classic can seriously bring listeners to tears. The song pierces the heart.

19. Santa Baby—Madonna—Everyone loves a naughty song about Christmas, don't they?

18. Dominic The Donkey—A funny Christmas song, especially for anyone of the Italian heritage.

17. Baby, It's Cold Outside—Jessica Simpson and Nick Lacey—A cute duet that can seriously get stuck in your head for days. Also nice to hear the world's former "Newlyweds" sing a song together to bring back the good old days.

16. The Hanukkah Song—Adam Sandler—Always leave it to Sandler to mix up the holiday season with a song that will make you fall out of your seat laughing.

15. Silent Night—Christina Aguilera—One of the most beautiful Christmas songs on the planet and her haunting voice makes it even more enjoyable.

14. Winter Wonderland—A bouncy song that makes you want to go play in the snow.

13. Blue Christmas—Elvis Presley—A great song for those who tend to get depressed around Christmas time.

12. Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer—It's always good to celebrate the famous characters of Christmas time.

11. Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree—The scene in Home Alone where Kevin sets up all his toys including a life size Michael Jordan and pretends to have a Christmas party to this song is a classic.

10. Happy Christmas—John Lennon—This song brings a different perspective on the holiday season, making everyone want to

celebrate for one common cause.

9. 12 Days of Christmas—Who doesn't remember singing this song in grammar school?

8. All I Want for Christmas is You—Mariah Carey—The super diva cranked out a holiday hit that will go down as one of the best modern holiday tunes of all time.

7. Christmas Time is Here—Charlie Brown's Christmas—All the music from Charlie Brown's Christmas warms your heart and makes you feel thankful for what you have because of Charlie Brown's weak little tree.

6. You're a Mean One Mr. Grinch—How the Grinch Stole Christmas—You may not want to admit it, but everyone knows the words to this song. Once the movie airs on TV, you know it's Christmas time.

5. Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas—Judy Garland—A somber tune made famous in the film "Meet Me in St. Louis."

4. White Christmas—Bing Crosby—First of all, Bing Crosby's voice is timeless. Second, who doesn't dream of having a white Christmas?

3. Santa Claus is Coming to Town—Bruce Springsteen—The Boss doesn't seem like the type that would record a good Christmas song, but he delivers with this one. It's a fun rock version of a Christmas classic that can connect to kids and parents alike.

2. Feliz Navidad—Jose Feliciano—This tune adds a little diversity and cheer to the Christmas play list.

1. The Christmas Song—Nat King Cole—Simply my favorite Christmas song. It really makes you feel like snuggling up next to a fire with a cup of hot chocolate. This line is a classic: "And so I'm offering this simple phrase/To kids from one to 92/Although it's been said many times many ways/Merry Christmas to you."

## 'Carnival Ride' satisfies all

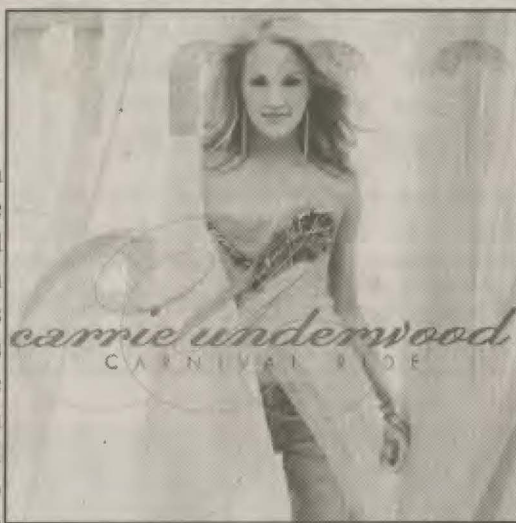
By **KEVIN CRANMER**  
Circle Contributor

American Idol season four winner, Carrie Underwood, dropped her sophomore album "Carnival Ride" this past October. Carrie's debut album "Some Hearts" was a smash success and "Carnival Ride" seems likely to follow down the same path.

With a more country sound, songs like "Flat on the Floor" and "Last Name" show Underwood's maturity with lyrics like "You can't knock me off my feet/When I'm already on my knees" and "It Started Out 'Hey Cutie Where Ya From' and Then It Turned Into 'Oh No What Have I Done?'"

The new sound will not leave young or non-country fans out in the cold. Tunes like "Get Out of This Town" and "The More Boys I Meet" have a youthful and refreshing sound. These songs touch on the desire to break free from the everyday and trying to find the perfect mate, "I close my eyes and kiss that frog/Each time finding the more boys I meet the more I love my dog."

Underwood's album is well rounded and her vocal prowess



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Carrie Underwood's sophomore album cover is displayed in power ballads "So Small" and "I Know You Won't." Huge dynamic melodies and inspirational lyrics are reminiscent of Underwood's former chart topping hit "Jesus Take the Wheel."

Carrie also takes a position on current world affairs with the single "Just a Dream" about a young woman whose husband is killed in war with lyrics like "Baby why'd you leave me/Why'd you have to go/I was counting on forever/Now I'll never know."

With "Carnival Ride" currently sitting at number seven on the Billboard Chart after topping it at number one, it is safe to say "Carnival Ride" is a refreshing listen and will supply us with radio favorites well through the summer.

Interested in movies, music, food,  
or video games?  
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## CBS's 'Moonlight' shines above other Friday night TV

By KELLY LAUTURNER  
Staff Writer

While many people are gravitated to this season's new hip shows such as "Gossip Girl" and "Private Practice," CBS's new show "Moonlight" is the best show you're not watching this season.

"Moonlight" stars Australian native Alex O'Laughlin (featured on FX's "The Shield" and the movie "August Rush") as Mick St. John, a Los Angeles private investigator with a secret. Mick is a gorgeous vampire in his eighties with a devil-may-care attitude and a desire to help humans.

Does this plot seem familiar yet? The basic premise of "Moonlight" is reminiscent of WB's 1999 hit "Angel." But I was relieved to find out that "Moonlight" is not the same show as "Angel," despite an early influence from "Angel" creator David Greenwalt.

The show begins when Mick is sent to investigate the mysterious death of a college student. At the scene, he meets curious Beth Turner (Sophia Myles from "Tristan and Isolde"), a reporter for an Internet news site. They immediately connect when Mick realizes he rescued Beth when she was kidnapped as a young girl.

As the attraction and sexual

tension grow between the pair, they begin meeting up to work on cases together. Mick uses his vampire senses to help solve the cases and Beth becomes his assistant so she can get the exclusive story.

Their relationship is met with great restraint from Beth's boyfriend Josh (Jordan Belfi), who works for the District Attorney's office and from Mick's only friend, a 400 year old vampire named Josef.

Mick struggles with demons of his past both internally and in the flesh. His only friend Josef (Jason Dohring, "Veronica Mars") lives a fairly normal life and is as happy as a vampire could be. Mick's conversations with Josef, who "daylights" as a wealthy businessman, reveal Mick's secret pain from his past.

On Mick's wedding night in the 1950s, his wife Coraline (Shannyn Sossamon, "A Knight's Tale") turned him into a vampire. Mick was so horrified he hid alone for years, preferring to get blood from the morgue rather than kill humans.

However, Mick has been the most tormented because he killed Coraline about twenty years ago after she kidnapped a little girl (Beth) to try to convince Mick to come back to her. After Mick saved Beth, he trapped Coraline in a burning building, supposedly killing her. But now a woman has started

working with Beth that looks and acts exactly like Coraline.

Is Mick going to hurt an innocent woman or has Coraline found a way to cheat death? Will she make Mick pay for what he's done to her? What will happen between Mick and Beth?

I had my reservations about "Moonlight" because critic reviews did not give the show much praise. But I gave it a chance regardless and I am getting attached to the characters.

It doesn't have a good time slot airing on Friday nights, but I usually end up taping it. According to viewer numbers, between 7.5 million and 8.5 million watch the show each week, which is promising. Friday has been a dead night for television since the dissolution of ABC's TGIF lineup of the 1990s.

I was amused and surprised with the twists on vampire folklore the show uses. As a vampire, Mick sleeps in a meat freezer to stay cool and to control his blood cravings. He and other vampires



Mick (Alex O'Laughlin), an 80 year old vampire, with Coraline (Shannon Sossamon), his ex wife.

can go outside in the daylight without bursting into flames, but they usually try to avoid it because too many humans are around.

I like the idea of Mick being a modern-day hero who goes after bad vampires and humans. The show operates on a '40s detective movie style but with realistic characters of the present, which is a nice change from some of the dull show plots these days.

Give "Moonlight" a chance on a Friday night. The next episode will air December 14th at 9 p.m., but the screenwriters' strike has left the fate of the show unclear for 2008.

## Happy Birthday, Britney and other celebrity news

By CHELSEA MURRAY  
Staff Writer

Legally Blonde Reese Witherspoon beats out Sexiest Woman Alive Angelina Jolie as the highest paid actress in the movie biz. Witherspoon comes out just over Jolie with a paycheck of \$15-20 million per picture. Both of these Hollywood moms have perfected the art of acting (and falling in love with their costars).

Chylar Leigh, the young actress who plays Meredith Grey's annoying yet loveable sister, Lexi popped up in the headlines this past week. Leigh was caught making out with her brother! Yes, it was in a movie and yes, she was only 12 years old, but seriously? Let's just hope Leigh only did it to advance her career.

Katie Holmes revealed a new sexy bob this past week. She seems to have grown into the role of a fashion icon. Despite all of Tom Cruise's crazy flaws, he does seem to know how to turn his wives into stylish trophy brides.

Sorry ladies, Brad Pitt has vowed never to do another nude scene for a movie. He doesn't want to embarrass himself in front of his ever-growing brood

with Angelina Jolie. How could that body embarrass anyone? I guess we'll just have to settle for watching his past movies and respect his decision to cover himself up from now on.

Katherine Heigl dissed her hit summer comedy "Knocked Up" and Grey's Anatomy character Izzie. She said the movie was sexist and hard for her to laugh at. And she honestly can't figure out Izzie and doesn't understand the relationship between her and George and claims the relationship is a ratings ploy. Thank god someone said it because that is seriously the strangest relationship on the planet.

Evel Knievel and Kanye West finally settled their long-standing lawsuit and days later Knievel passed away. He had to clean up unfinished business before the American daredevil icon could finally leave this world.

Happy Birthday Britney! Man, what a year she's had. From divorce to rehab to shaving her head to losing custody of her kids to pumping out a hit album. Her 25th year on this planet has been quite a roller coaster for the reigning pop princess. Even though people may be asking her to give them more, let's hope she can straighten herself out over this next year.

# Sports in Our Society: A Debate on Professional Athletes as Role Models

Thursday, December 6th - 8:00 PM  
Henry Hudson Room - Fontaine

Resolved: Professional athletes should not be expected to serve as role models for the nation's youth.

### Panel:

Dr. Keith Strudler - Chair - Department of Communication,  
Professor of Sports Communication

Dr. Linda Dunlap - Professor of Psychology, School of  
Behavioral Sciences

Debate to be followed by a public question & answer session.

Sponsored and Organized by Marist College Debate  
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# Red Foxes still solid at point guard

## Legends Kresge and Jordan gone, others fill shoes

By ERIC ZEDALIS  
Sports Co-Editor

The Alisa Kresge era is over, but thus far, the Marist women's basketball team is no worse off.

Sure, last year's team averaged under 12 turnovers per game, which, no doubt, had a lot to do with Kresge's nation-leading individual assist-to-turnover ratio.

And yes, Kresge was certainly a valuable asset on defense, having won the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) defensive player of the year for three years straight.

But just look at the numbers. Without Kresge running the point, Marist averages just two more turnovers a game this year at 14.

And defensively, after a tough opening non-conference schedule that included 16th ranked Ohio State, the Foxes are only allowing an average of 55.6 points per game. (Right now that is only good for second place in the MAAC behind Fairfield, but it will likely go down when Marist begins conference play).

Meanwhile, head coach Brian Giorgis is also getting some scoring production from the point guard position, something Kresge did not offer.

While Kresge was a perennial MAAC assist leader, she was a poor shooter from the field.

The combination of guards Julianne Viani (sixth in the MAAC in assists per game with 3.56) and Nikki Flores (9.4 ppg) on the floor at one time seems to have made up for what Kresge provided on both ends

of the floor.

Plus, the veterans on this team already know they can overcome the graduation of a star player since they've done it once before.

After the Foxes graduated 2005-2006 MAAC player of the year Fifi Camara, they went on to have the best season in school history the next year.

Part of the reason for this is Giorgis' ability to recruit. After losing the MAAC player of the year at forward, he went to his own stomping grounds in the state of Ohio and snagged the Ohio player of the year, Rachele Fitz.

You may have noticed, she's been a pretty good player. She practically swept the MAAC rookie of the week awards throughout the season last year, and should have won the player of the year award last year as a freshman, but it was unjustly awarded to Iona senior Martina Weber.

So what do you think Giorgis did when he lost his phenom point guard Alisa Kresge? He just went out and picked up the Canadian player of the year in point guard Élise Caron. Coming off the bench, Caron is right behind Viani at seventh in the MAAC in assists, averaging three a game.

And if there wasn't enough guard production already with Viani, Flores and Caron, he also got another quality Ohioan in Erica Allenspach, who had a breakout game this past weekend against Bucknell with 10 points off the bench.

Right now it's pretty safe to say the Foxes are doing just fine in the post-Kresge era.



JAMES REILLY/ THE CIRCLE

Marist point guard David Devezin dished out seven assists with no turnovers in a 79-64 win over Wright State on Saturday night at McCann.

By GREG HRINYA  
Assistant Editor

The Marist Red Foxes remain an unknown commodity due to the departure of Jared Jordan, James Smith, and Will Whittington, but if Saturday night's contest against 2007 NCAA tournament participant Wright State is any indication, the outlook is positive. In the team's 79-64 win over the Raiders, there were a number of important statistics. Louie McCroskey scored a career-high 24 points, the Red Foxes led by as many as 22 points in the second half, and the 47 point first half total marked the most the team has scored in the first half in two seasons. The most important number was zero, however. Zero David Devezin turnovers.

The redshirt sophomore from Houston, Texas delivered a seven-to-zero assist-to-turnover ratio against Wright State to go along with eight points and five rebounds. In the process, Devezin proved why a Jordan-less Marist team can still com-

pete for a top seed in the MAAC.

While Devezin's emergence might be a shock to the Red Fox faithful, he's not surprising his coaches.

"I've said to David that I think he's got a chance to be the best point guard in the league," Marist head coach Matt Brady said earlier this season. "David has an extra gear here that allows him to get free and clear of most defenders. As he learns what his teammates can do, since he's only been with them a short time, he's going to be a really unique player for us."

Devezin faces one of the most daunting tasks in NCAA basketball: replace Jared Jordan. Jordan became the first player in NCAA history to lead the nation in assists twice since current Dallas Mavericks' head coach Avery Johnson accomplished the feat at Southern University in 1987-1988. Devezin, the former Texas A & M product, has averaged 30.5 minutes per game and drew the ire of Wright State head coach Brad Brownell.

"[He's] a great 'run your team'

guard," Brownell said. "We knew he was a good player, but watching him in person you appreciate [him]. He wasn't bothered by our press, and he wasn't bothered by the way we guarded him. I thought he just did a good job of helping the run team, take what they had, didn't force shots, didn't force passes, stayed pretty calm and just made good plays."

If David Devezin can be the 2007-2008 version of Jared Jordan, he has Syracuse transfer Louie McCroskey to play the role of Will Whittington. With 1:42 remaining in the first half, Devezin found McCroskey on a backdoor-cut for a lay-up to put the Red Foxes ahead 41-30.

"It feels good [to have Louie knocking down shots] because it opens up a lot of lanes," Devezin said.

This season's Marist team is different, but not necessarily worse. After losing 64.6 percent of their scoring and 74.7 percent of their assists, the Red Foxes have a lot to make up for. Behind Devezin and McCroskey, Marist is tied for first in the MAAC with Rider after being selected to finish fifth in the preseason poll. Of the four teams picked to finish ahead of the Red Foxes (Siena, Loyola, Niagara, and Rider), none have allowed fewer points per game than Marist has this season. Marist allows 4.8 less points per game than Rider and 14.9 less points per game than preseason favorite Siena, who lost most recently to Cornell.

The Red Foxes underwent significant turnover in their roster, but so far, the starting guard hasn't been turning the ball over, and the Red Foxes' record shows. Devezin has dished out 35 assists this season, good for two behind MAAC leader Ryan Thompson of Rider. Devezin's 2.06 assist-to-turnover ratio ranks him fourth in the MAAC. After only eight games in a Marist uniform, the best is yet to come from the Houston product.

"I think David's just scratching the surface of what he can become," Brady said. "I thought that he was really the key player in our win versus Wright State because I thought that he controlled the tempo of the game, and that when we needed shots he was able to get in the gaps of their defense and create opportunities for us."

Unlike four out of the last five games, this contest did not come down to the final possession. Up 39-30 with 2:19 remaining in the first half, the Red Foxes went on a 10-0 run that stretched into the second half. Spongy Benjamin capped off the run with a mid-range jumper to give the Foxes a 49-30 lead with 18:46 to play.

Marist extended its lead to as many as 22 when David Devezin found senior Shae McNamara underneath the basket for a lay-up. Devezin had eight points, seven assists, five rebounds, and most importantly, zero turnovers.

As a team, the Red Foxes turned the ball over seven times. Coach Brady attributed his team's success to their ability to hold onto the ball.

"I think one of the stories of the game was [that] we had seven turnovers for the game," Brady said. "If we can do that we're going to be very tough to beat, and our guys have been committed to taking care of the ball and that's a big deal."



JAMES REILLY/ THE CIRCLE

Élise Caron, the Canadian player of the year, averages three assists per game coming off the bench as she helps fill Alisa Kresge's shoes.

# Marist beats Wright State, faces challenge in UMass

By GREG HRINYA  
Assistant Editor

In a battle of high-powered offense and smothering defense, something has to give.

The Red Foxes' new high-pressure defense will face the ultimate test against Gary Forbes, Ricky Harris, and the UMass Minutemen at Mohegan Sun on Saturday night. After setting a program record by yielding 40 points against Bucknell in a 55-40 win on Nov. 28, the Red Foxes will take on a team that has scored over 100 points twice this season.

While the Red Foxes set a defensive record at Bucknell, the Minutemen established one of their own at Syracuse on the same night. In a 107-100 win over Syracuse, UMass registered the most points ever scored at the Carrier Dome. Notre Dame held the previous record of 103 set on Jan. 30, 2007.

Marist's toughest task will be stopping Forbes and Harris. Forbes scored a game-high 25

points against Syracuse and leads the team with 21.4 points per game. The senior forward also leads the team in rebounding and is second in assists. Harris, the 6-foot-2 sophomore guard, is second on the team with 19.9 points per game.

"To be a championship level team you've got to play great defense, and we're hoping to exert some control at that end of the floor over UMass's offense," head coach Matt Brady said. "If we can play great defense and keep them below their average then we have a chance to win the game."

According to senior captain Ben Farmer, Marist's advantage will be its defensive team speed which shut down Bucknell.

"I think with the quickness we're better [than last year's team defensively]," Farmer said. "It gives us more leeway to do some things, and this year I think we're just going to keep getting better."

The Minutemen totaled 24 wins last season, including key wins against Louisville and

Alabama. After competing against three upper echelon teams in Puerto Rico, UMass will represent another challenge for the Red Foxes.

"I look at every non-conference game as an opportunity to help put our basketball program on a national map," Brady said. "That's part of the reason we have such a difficult non-conference schedule, because we're still trying to establish our name and not just regionally but nationally."

Following Wednesday night's contest at Canisius to kick off Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play, Marist will not return home to the friendly confines of McCann until Jan. 7 for a conference game against rival Manhattan.

### Last time out vs. Wright State

Louie McCroskey proved why he was selected second team all-MAAC in the preseason against Wright State on Dec. 1.

In his first season with the Red Foxes, the senior scored 24 points and grabbed eight



## Roarin' Red Foxes

Marist's male and female star performer for the weekend of Nov. 30- Dec. 2

Louie McCroskey  
Basketball, Senior



McCroskey had a career-high in points with 24 in Marist's 79-64 win over Wright State this past weekend. He was 10-19 from the field, 3-9 from beyond the arc. The senior guard also added eight rebounds and three assists.

### On the horizon:

The men's basketball team will take on UMass at Mohegan Sun this Saturday, Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Lynzee Johnson  
Basketball, Sophomore



The sophomore had a career-high 15 points in the Foxes' 68-56 win over Bucknell this past weekend. Johnson added four rebounds, shot 6-10 from the field and 2-3 from the charity stripe on the way to her career game.

### On the Horizon:

The Red Foxes will try to continue their winning streak when they take on MAAC rival Iona this Friday at 7:30 p.m. here in Poughkeepsie.



\* Photos courtesy of www.goredfoxes.com

# Foxes finish second at H2Ounds Invitational

By RICH ARLEO  
Assistant Editor

The Marist women's swimming and diving team had a successful weekend at the H2Ounds Invitational in Baltimore, Md.

The team finished second out of four teams at the meet. The Foxes were able to beat Drexel by a score of 223-144, and they were able to take care of fellow Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) foe Loyola by a score of 190-180. The win

against Loyola improves the team's MAAC record to 3-1 with an overall record of 4-3.

Marist, however, would fall to Delaware 226-144. The same scenario happened to the Foxes at last year's H2Ounds Invitational, as in 2006 they were able to take care of two of their opponents, Loyola and Niagara, but still fell to Delaware.

The top performer this past weekend was sophomore swimmer Jenell Walsh-Thomas, who was able to achieve MAAC sea-

son best times in both the 500-yard and 1650-yard freestyle events, with scores of 5:06.19 and 17:39.64 respectively.

Other top performers for the Foxes were sophomore swimmer Sandra Bujalski, who came in first in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 0:58.66, and senior diver Melissa Mangona who was unable to sweep the diving events, like she did last year at this meet, but she still managed to come in second in both the one-meter and three-meter div-

ing events, with scores of 236.45 in the one-meter, and 268.50 in the three-meter.

The Foxes should at least be satisfied with their performance in the first half of the season, especially after their second place performance at the H2Ounds invitational this past weekend. The win over Loyola was especially important, as it moved them to a 3-1 record in the MAAC.

Marist will have a long layoff where they will train for the sec-

ond half of the season and try to improve on an already respectable 4-3 overall record, and to get ready for the MAAC championships.

The Red Foxes next meet will take place here in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. on Jan. 12, against Lehigh at 1 p.m. The team will then have one away meet against Southern Connecticut State, followed by two home meets against UMBC and Seton Hall, before they will head into the MAAC Championships in Baltimore,

Md., which will take place the weekend of Feb. 14-16.

The MAAC Championships won't end Marist's season however, as they will be followed by the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) championships two weeks later, and the NCAA Zone Qualifier Diving Championships afterwards.

The Foxes will be training hard over the next few weeks to prepare themselves for the very important second half of the season.

# Marist falls to Greyhounds for second MAAC loss

By CASEY LANE  
Staff Writer

During the 12 years that they have been a member of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC), the Marist men's swimming and diving team has only lost two conference dual meets, both to Rider. On Saturday, the Foxes were

defeated by Loyola at the H2Ounds Invitational, 196.5 - 173.5 on the campus of Loyola College.

The weekend was not a total loss, however.

The Red Foxes defeated Delaware 204 - 166, as well as Drexel 194 - 175. Delaware, who has already beaten Rider, is ranked sixth in the Mid-Major

poll.

Of the three MAAC losses in program history, two have occurred this season.

With the loss, Marist's record dropped to 5-2 overall, with a 2-2 record in the MAAC.

Junior Spencer Hartmann won three events during the meet. Hartmann won the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 4:39.66.

His time of 16:10.20 was also good enough to take first in the 1650-yard freestyle. Both of Hartmann's times were MAAC season bests.

Sophomore Mitchell Katz won the three-meter dive for two straight weeks with a score of 252.65. Senior Devon O'Nalty followed last week's victory in the one-meter dive by finishing

in second place to Drexel's Jake Roberson.

The team of freshmen Keith Miller and Angelo Ciruolo and seniors Ralph Rienzo and Greg Jablonski combined to win the 400-yard freestyle relay by finishing with a time of 3:09.90.

After the first day of the meet, Marist had at least an eight-point lead on all three teams. Loyola

used a strong performance on Saturday to pull out the win.

The Red Foxes will take the rest of the semester off and return to action on Jan. 12 against Lehigh. From that point on, there are only three meets remaining until the MAAC Championships at Loyola on Feb. 14.

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## Red Foxes open MAAC campaign Friday vs. Iona *Marist's recognition grows, receives 37 points in recent AP poll*

By ERIC ZEDALIS  
Sports Co-Editor

Back on Mar. 4, Marist and Iona played at the Arena at Harbor Yard in the final of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) tournament.

With 30 seconds remaining in regulation and the score knotted at 53, Iona guard Lauren DeFalco missed an open lay-up which would have sent the Gaels, not the Red Foxes, to the NCAA tournament. Marist

went on to win in overtime, 64-57.

DeFalco is back for her senior year, and she looks to lead the Gaels to victory against Marist this Friday night at the McCann Center at 7:30 p.m. Her team is quite different from last year though, according to Marist head coach Brian Giorgis.

"Right now, they're a little more guard-oriented than they are front-court oriented, which is a switch from last year," he said. "They're a young team, so [head coach Anthony Bozella]'s got them playing a different style now, he's a little bit more

up-tempo at both ends."

Therefore, DeFalco and fellow senior guard Tiara Headen have taken on major roles this year. When those two play well, Giorgis said Iona is a very dangerous team.

This past weekend, the Gaels exploded for 58 first half points in their 86-62 victory over Fordham.

"They beat up Fordham much worse than we did,"

Giorgis said.

Marist did also dominate Fordham 75-55 on Nov. 14. "If we don't come

to play, we're going to be in a lot of trouble."

One of the keys to this game will be how the Foxes are able to withstand the pressure Iona applies on defense. Marist has done a solid job thus far taking care of the basketball.

The Foxes are ranked 17th in the country in fewest turnovers,

averaging 14 per game. Meanwhile, Iona is last in the MAAC and near the bottom in the NCAA, averaging 26 turnovers per game.

"We have to hope that we can force them to turn it over, and then at our end take those turnovers and convert them into points," Giorgis said. "And then look to not turn the ball over ourselves so they won't be able to convert them into points."

For Iona, the departure of 2006-2007 MAAC player of the year, Martina Weber, means that the Gaels will have to find an answer on defense for forward Rachele Fitz and center Meg Dahlman. Fitz is the fourth leading scorer in the MAAC, averaging 16.3 points per

game, and Dahlman is the MAAC's third-leading rebounder.

"How they match up with Rachele Fitz and Meg Dahlman is going to be huge," Giorgis said.

Giorgis pointed out that there are a number of intriguing individual matchups in this game,

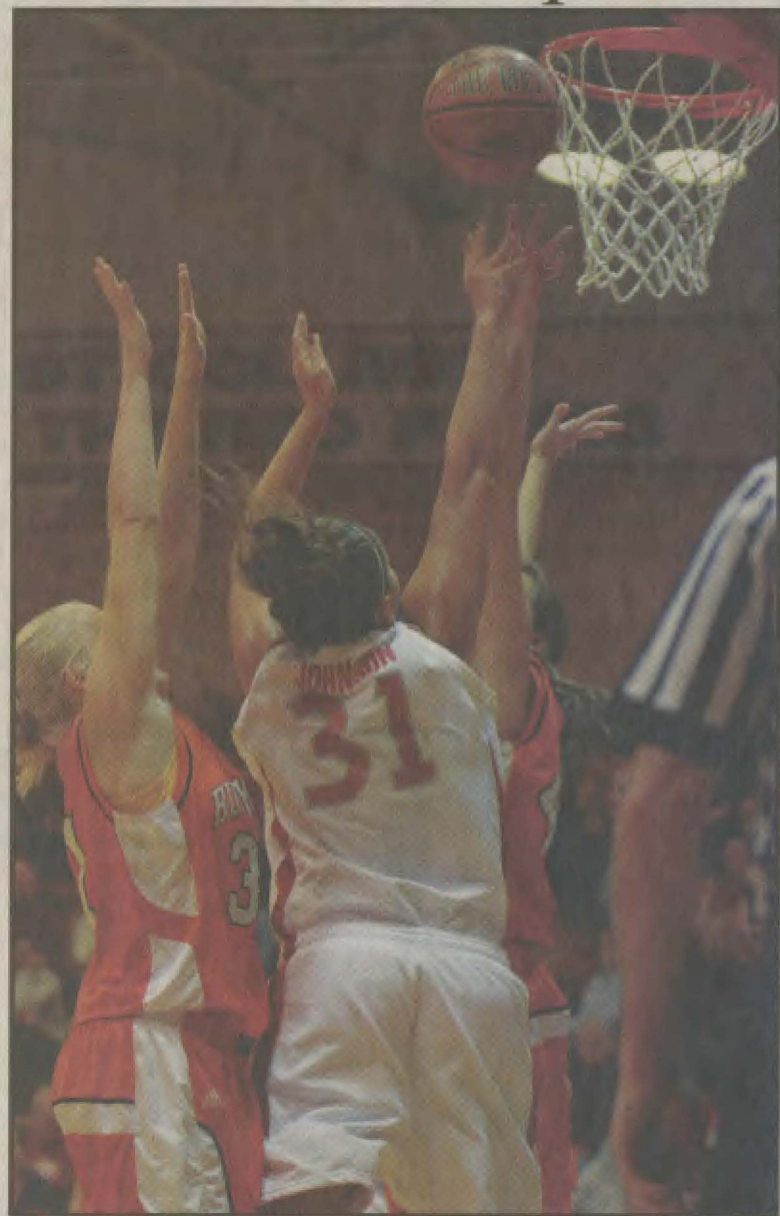
Junior guard Julianne Viani vs. Iona's Headen, and the Gaels' emerging sophomore forward Thazina Cook vs. Marist's emerging sophomore forward Lynzee Johnson.

Headen, at 5'9, has a slight height advantage over the 5'7 Viani and had a big game in the MAAC finals, scoring 15 points on 5-of-12 shooting.

The first two regular season games, however, she went a combined 6-for-15 from the field, and scored a total of 14 points.

Cook's speed will present a tough assignment for Johnson, according to Giorgis.

"Cook is a lot quicker, where Lynzee's more powerful," he said. "[Cook] is really quick off the bounce, and really attacks the offensive glass. She's really tough. Lynzee's a little bit slower but much stronger, physically."



JAMES REILLY / THE CIRCLE

Sophomore forward Lynzee Johnson scored a career high 15 points in a win over Bucknell. Marist will open MAAC play Friday evening against Iona. The match-up is a rematch of last year's MAAC Championship.

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